

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

### **Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-6 (canceled).

7. (currently amended) An operating/managing method in an operating/managing system of a plurality of storage apparatuses, comprising the steps of:

- causing a storage apparatus to be specified, said storage apparatus being in use at present;
- causing a property to be specified, said storage apparatus being requested to exhibit said property;
- causing a particular storage apparatus to be selected from among candidates of storage apparatuses indicated from said operating/managing system;
- requesting said selected storage apparatus to create a volume; and
- instructing said selected storage apparatus to start duplication of data.

8. (currently amended) The operating/managing method of said storage apparatuses as claimed in Claim 7, subsequently-subsequent to said step of causing said a particular storage apparatus to be selected, said operating/managing method further comprising a step of:

- indicating a fee needed for said-duplication of said data.

9. (currently amended) The operating/managing method of said storage apparatuses as claimed in Claim 7, ~~subsequently~~ subsequent to said step of requesting said selected storage apparatus ~~creation of said volume~~, said operating/managing method further comprising a step of:

charging a fee to a storage apparatus operating system that owns said selected storage apparatus.

10. (new) The operating/managing method of said storage apparatuses according to claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

holding property information that is a property of each of said storage apparatuses connected to said computer in said operating/managing system;

retrieving storage apparatuses in accordance with said specified property based on said property information; and

indicating said candidates of storage apparatuses as a result of the retrieving.